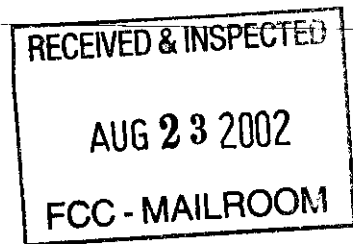




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February 12, 2002

WC DOCKET NO. 02-189

Michael K. Powell, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 29554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I support Qwest's application to the Federal Communications Commission for permission to offer long distance services in Colorado. It is my understanding that the Colorado Public Utilities Commission is satisfied that the local markets in Colorado are open to competition based on the 14 point, federally mandated checklist.

As former policy director in Governor Roy Romer's Office, I know the importance of telecommunications and fair competition to the economic growth of our state. As a senior research associate at the University of Colorado at Denver, Graduate School of Public Affairs, I am aware of the significance of fair and equitable telecommunication services as higher education looks to the future. Presently, I am developing and coordinating a distance-learning program for early childhood professionals. This statewide project includes 14 community colleges, the University of Colorado, and the Colorado Departments of Education and Human Services.

I hope you act favorably and quickly on Qwest's application to offer long distance services. Increased choices can only be good for Coloradoans.

Sincerely

Kathleen Stiles

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